

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 STR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5880

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT CORRECTED PARA 2.)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, CZ, US
SUBJECT: US-CZECHOSLOVAK ECONOMIC COUNCIL SEPTEMBER PLENARY

REF: (A) STATE 169902, (B) PRAGUE 1594

1. OVER LUNCH, EMBOFFS TALKED WITH CHAMBER OFFICIALS GAYDECKA AND STASTNY ABOUT UPCOMING COUNCIL PLENARY. THEY SAID THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ON ALL MAJOR ITEMS OF COUNCIL AGENDA AND WERE WARM IN THEIR PRAISE OF EFFORTS OF U.S. CHAMBER'S HASFURTHER TO DATE.
2. THEY EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN, HOWEVER, OVER THE LOWER LEVEL OF U.S. PARTICIPATION THAN THEY HAD HOPED FOR, AND MENTIONED THAT SOME VICE PRESIDENTS OF FIRMS HAD BEEN NOTED IN PLACE OF PRESIDENTS. IN PARTICULAR, THE ABSENCE OF SCOTT OF ALLIS-CHALMERS WAS UNDERLINED. SO FAR, ONLY 26 NAMES OF U.S. PARTICIPANTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED, BUT THEY WERE CERTAIN MORE WOULD BE NAMED IN DUE COURSE THROUGH HASFURTHER. CONCERN WAS EXPRESSED AT SAME TIME, HOWEVER, AT LACK OF HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR MORE THAN 30, PLUS WIVES.

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3. WHEN EMBOFF QUERIED ABOUT CZECHOSLOVAK PARTICIPATION, STASTNY AND GAYDECKA REPLIED THAT ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS WOULD BE PRESENT, BARRING UNFORESEEN PROBLEMS SUCH AS ILLNESSES. (UPDATED LIST OF CZECHOSLOVAK COUNCIL MEMBERS WAS GIVEN TO EMBOFF AND WILL BE POUCHED.) COMMENT: RESPONSE SEEMED GENUINE, ALTHOUGH IF CZECHOSLOVAKS PERCEIVE A FURTHER DOWNGRADING IN THE RANKS OF THE FOUR U.S.

PARTICIPANTS YET TO BE NAMED, IT CANNOT BE RULED OUT THAT "ILLNESSES" MAY STRIKE SOME SENIOR CZECHOSLOVAK OFFICIALS. END COMMENT.

4. THE PROBLEM OF USG PARTICIPATION FROM WASHINGTON WAS ONLY RAISED PERIPHERALLY, AS TELEX AND TELCON FROM HASFURTHER PROBABLY DEFUSED THAT ISSUE. CZECHOSLOVAKS NOW UNDERSTAND THAT VISITS OF THAT SORT ARE NOT USG PRACTICE. FURTHERMORE, CHAMBER OFFICIALS NOTED THAT AMBASSADOR IS A SENIOR RANKING USG OFFICIAL, AND WERE PLEASED THAT HE WILL ATTEND SOME COUNCIL MEETINGS, MAKE ONE OF THE OPENING SETS OF REMARKS, AND HOST A SOCIAL EVENT FOR THE COUNCIL.

5. ON THE BASIS OF STASTNY/HASFURTHER CONVERSATIONS, SOCIAL AGENDA FOR PARTICIPANTS IS UNDERGOING SOME FURTHER MODIFICATION, AND COPY WILL BE POUCHED WHEN AVAILABLE.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT CONTENTS OF THIS MESSAGE BE PASSED TO HASFURTHER AND GOLDMAN.

5. DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT.
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

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